

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently amended) A method of locating an item in a facility, the method comprising:
positioning a number of room transmitters in multiple areas within a facility;
configuring each room transmitter to generate a unique, modulated signature;
wherein configuring each room transmitter includes configuring a first room transmitter
to send a time varying signal that varies between a first frequency and a second frequency and
configuring a second room transmitter to send a time varying signal that varies between a third
frequency and a fourth frequency during the same time that the first transmitter sends its time
varying signal;

wherein configuring each room transmitter includes synchronizing the room transmitters
within a room so that each room transmitter sends a unique, time dependent signal;

fitting one or more items with a location tag, at least one of the items operable to acquire
physiologic data from a patient associated with the item;

configuring each location tag to regularly generate a signal having information regarding
the identity of the location tag, the physiologic data, and the signature of any room transmitter
within a reception range of the respective tag;

positioning at least one locating receiver within the facility; and

determining the likely location and identity of the location tag based on the signal of the
location tag; and

A method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising wherein determining the likely
location includes determining the location of a the location tag based on the offset of the time
varying signals from the first and second room transmitters.

32-42. (Canceled)

22 43. (Currently amended) A method of locating an item in a facility, the method comprising:
positioning a number of room transmitters in multiple areas within a facility;
configuring each room transmitter to generate a unique, modulated signature;
wherein configuring each room transmitter includes configuring a first room transmitter
to send a time varying signal that varies between a first frequency and a second frequency and
configuring a second room transmitter to send a time varying signal that varies between a third
frequency and a fourth frequency during the same time that the first transmitter sends its time
varying signal;

fitting one or more items with a location tag, at least one of the items operable to acquire
physiologic data;

distributing the tagged items throughout the facility;

configuring each location tag to have an identity, to regularly transmit its identity and the
physiologic data, and to regularly retransmit the signature or a representation of the signature of
any room transmitter within a reception range of the respective tag;

positioning at least one locating receiver within the facility; and

determining the likely location and identity of at least one of the location tags based on
transmissions from that location tag received by the locating receiver; and

A method as claimed in claim 42, further comprising wherein determining the likely
location includes determining the location of a one of the location tag tags based on the offset of
the time varying signal from the first and second room transmitters.

44-53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously presented) A method of locating an item in a facility, the method comprising:

positioning a number of room transmitters within a facility;

synchronizing the room transmitters within an area of the facility so that each room transmitter generates a unique, time dependent signal wherein a first room transmitter is configured to send its unique, time dependent signal which varies between a first frequency and a second frequency and wherein a second room transmitter is configured to send its unique, time dependent signal which varies between a third frequency and a fourth frequency during the same time that the first transmitter sends its time dependent signal;

fitting one or more items with a location tag;

distributing the tagged items throughout the facility;

configuring each location tag to have an identity, to transmit its identity, and to retransmit the unique, time dependent signal of any room transmitter within a reception range of the respective location tag;

positioning at least one location receiver within the facility, the location receiver operable to receive the unique, time dependent signals from the location tag; and

determining the location and identity of at least one of the location tags based on the offset of the time dependent signals from the first and second room transmitters.